

Bio of;            Brian J. O'Connor    Executive Vice President, Global Election  
Systems, McKinney, TX

Mr. O'Connor has more than 25 years of successful management experience specializing in project design, development, and implementation. The scope of his management experience extends from complex but small efforts to \$65 million, complex system integration efforts. He possesses expertise in marketing and directing projects in multiple industries, including program distribution, logistics, and systems development. Mr. O'Connor has developed domestic and international sales forces, using both captive and independent personnel, with demonstrated results. A seasoned technology executive, Mr. O'Connor oversees all aspects of strategic planning initiatives, corporate vision, Government affairs, external relations and partnerships within Global Election Systems.

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

**I would like to take this time to thank you for the opportunity to address this committee on these several pertinent issues. It is difficult to address and clarify these issues in the short time allotted so I will be brief and address all 4 of the issues.**

**1.)FROM YOUR PERSPECTIVE WHAT FEDERAL ACTION COULD HELP FACILITATE TECHNOLOGICAL IMPROVEMENTS IN THE VOTING PROCESS?**

**From our perspective, technology is here, approved and available immediately. The acceptance of this by the public and the election officials is behind the power curve. If we can transmit secure information in defense, intelligence, banking and National Security, why is it so hard to accept the fact that votes can be secured as well? The Government should provide funding not to purchase equipment, but to support the infrastructure behind electronic voting. Once an infrastructure is in place, the voting equipment cost dramatically falls because the equipment becomes an appliance.**

**2.) DOES THE INDUSTRY HAVE THE CAPACITY TO REPLACE OUTDATED MACHINES BY THE 02 OR 04 ELECTIONS**

**Yes by 04 If you start NOW. You can not wait til 03 to complete the task in one year. A Governmental action plan would enable the Industry to address the marketplace as a whole instead of the System-by-System scenario that currently exists. For those vendors who have modular designed hardware such as Global Election Systems, scaling your production runs for additional capacity is already designed in.**

**3.) HOW CAN WE REDUCE THE COSTS OF VOTING EQUIPMENT?**

**Reduction of equipment cost comes when electronic voting is supported by an electronic infrastructure. Until then we are subject to relatively small individual orders of various equipment. A Voting appliance would be capable of casting a vote to ANY system supported by an appropriate electronic infrastructure.**

**4.) WHAT CAN BE DONE TO IMPROVE THE EQUIPMENT CERTIFICATION PROCESS?**

**The original premise of NASED was an outstanding premise of having a National ITA certify Election Hardware and Software and remove the certification burden from the States. In addition, this was to create a uniform standard from which the Vendors could develop and produce products that were not State or County specific, thereby reducing costs. What we have today is not uniform. The ITA process is**

**arduous, time consuming and expensive. We have 1- ITA for Hardware and resident Software and 1- ITA for Software Management systems. This is causing serious bottlenecks. My question has always been, why do we utilize private companies for the ITA process when several Major Universities have expressed serious interest and have the resources to perform. (Such as George Mason, here in the DC area) Secondly, State acceptance of the ITA certification standards is not uniform. Some States require ITA, some do not. Some acknowledge ITA certification as their own; others require additional State certification on top of the ITA.**

**We need a uniform standard with multiple ITA's, which will give the public better, more secure systems at reduced costs.**

**Thank you for your time and interest.**